

Mormon is known to exhibit polymorphism, having three female forms. So I observed it carefully and found that it belonged to the *stichius* form which resembles the Common Rose (*Pachliopta aristolochiae*). After spreading its shrunken and wet wings, I shifted the butterfly to dry its wings on to a lemon tree from which the caterpillar was collected. I kept watching continuously for about 30 minutes and took some photographs. During this time I noticed a male Common Mormon flying around the lemon tree. I took detailed notes and left the site.

I visited the site again after 20 minutes and was astonished to find the newly emerged butterfly mating with the mature male Mormon. It was very interesting that the female Mormon had not even changed its position from where I had placed it initially. The marginal wing scales of the male Mormon were somewhat damaged and wing edges ruptured, indicating the extremity of its lifespan.

The male and female were in the clasped posture for another 90 minutes, with both their wings spread. The male was inverted, suspended

from the copulatory organ of the female. The hind wing of the female remained on the upper side, overlapping the male's wing. A white droplet of spermatozoa was observed on the wingbase of the male Mormon, perhaps splashed during the ejaculation. It was most surprising that the female became involved in mating immediately upon emergence, even prior to its first flight.

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25. MYCOPHAGOUS ARTHROPODS FROM THE ANDAMAN ISLANDS

The native fungi and their associated arthropods are both very poorly known from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. To study the nature of fungal-arthropod interactions we have been documenting the arthropod fauna of the fungi of these islands.

The arthropods so far collected on fungi from the Islands are represented by Coleoptera (including mycophagous staphylinids and tenebrionids) and a couple of Acarina. The oyster mushroom *Pleurotus sajor-caju* is attacked by *Scaphisoma* sp. (Coleoptera) in the cropping chamber, when this mushroom is cultured indoors.

List of Mycophagous arthropods from the Andaman Islands are as follows:

Insecta

Coleoptera

- Ciidae *Cis* spp.*
- Erotylidae *Spondotriplax andamana*
Arrow
- Scaphidiidae *Scaphisoma* sp.
- Staphylinidae *Gyrophaena* sp.
- Tenebrionidae *Cryphaeus* sp.
(Toxicinae)

Acarina

Mesostigmata

- Uropodidae *Cyllibula?bordagei*
(Oudemans)

Oribatada

(=Cryptostigmata)

- Parakalummidae Genus et sp. indet.

*Four species, presently not identified, were recorded.

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26. ON *DAPHNIOPSIS TIBETANA* SARS, 1903, (CLADOCERA) COLLECTED
FROM A HIGH ALTITUDE HIMALAYAN LAKE, INDIA

(With seven text-figures)

Four species of the genus *Daphniopsis* have so far been described, viz. *D. pusilla*, *D. studeri*, *D. tibetana* all by Sars (1903) and *D. australis* by Sergeev and Williams (1985). All the four species occur in saline water, among which *D. tibetana* is found in high altitude Himalayan saline lakes in India, Nepal, Tibet and Mongolia. After the original description of *D. tibetana* by Sars (1903) from Tibet, Brehm and Woltereck (1939) recorded the same species as *Daphnia tibetana* from Panggong Tso in Ladakh. The present report is a record of this species after a gap of five decades. A detailed description, and new morphological characters have been given, based on a few samples collected from Panggong Tso Lake.

A few samples collected during one of the regular trips to high altitude Himalayan lakes by the Zoological Survey of India, Solan, at Panggong Tso lake on August 23, 1998, were sent to the author for identification. The sample consists of thousands of adult female *Daphniopsis tibetana*, as well as *Cyclops ladacanus*(?) and *Gammarus pulex*(?). The materials used in this study include mature females as well as different pre-adult instars sorted from the collections. The lake Panggong Tso is in the Ladakh district of the western Himalayan region, at an altitude of 4241 m. It is an oligotrophic saline lake (pH 9.35). Other physico-chemical parameters were not recorded due to bad weather conditions.

DESCRIPTION

***Daphniopsis tibetana* Sars 1903**

Daphniopsis tibetana Sars 1903. Acad. Asc. St. Petersburg. 8 p. 171.

Daphniopsis tibetana Brehm & Woltereck, 1939. Int. Rev. ges. Hydrobiol. 1-19.

Female: Body size 2.62 mm; Body width 1.65 mm. Head wide and depressed, slightly produced near eye and ventral edge slightly concave. Rostrum prominent and blunt. Fornix extending in front and evenly arched. Eye moderately large, irregularly shaped, ocellus rounded and relatively large.

Carapace without dorsal carina or a posterior spine and not denticulate. Body slightly compressed and oval, dorsal and ventral margins evenly arched (Fig. 1). Postero-ventral margin with numerous submarginal spines. In adult females, carapace slightly larger than wide. Antennules small, immovable, not projecting beyond rostrum, with terminal sensory papillae and subterminal seta. Antennae large, setal formula (0-0-1-3/1-1-3). Hepatic caeca large and coiled as in other daphnids. Trunk limb 2 (Figs. 2-6): external branch of endopodite bearing three slightly chitinised, subequal setae (Figs. 2, 6) gnathobase 18 setae, (Fig. 2) with a second seta different in structure (Figs. 3, 4) from the sensory papilla of gnathobase (Fig. 5). Postabdomen (Fig. 7) tapering distally, dorsal margin sinuate with 10-12 anal denticles. Ventral margin of the